The Constant Use and Usual Abuse of the Watteau.

WOMEN AT THE FOOD SHOW

The Closk, the Cape and the Demi-Season Gown-Coaching Costumes. Some Hints on Millinery.

Womankind at the food show is chiefly remarkable for bundles and for Wattens foods in front and behind. The multiplication of bundles is amusing, but the multiplication of Watteau folds is grievous. Every booth is prodigal of "samples," and every woman accus a market basket, unless, as in one



THE UPSTANDING PLUME.

instance I noticed, she carries in her train a small army of long-haired little daughters and knickerbockered sons. Every dressmaker is prodigal of Wattesu folds, and every woman needs a generous allowance of common sense miesa, what with length of train and fullness of train, fullness of draperies, she is to give her hands more than they can conveniently hold up, let alone any share of the samples.

The sensationalism of the fin de siecle period carries every fashion to a humorone extreme. That is what is the matter with the Watteau fold. A graceful fancy, particularly effective when a tall slender woman moves to and fro in her bondoir, it is being grotesquely caricatured in street gowns and cloaks and capes that would give Watteau or Boucher the horrors.

There was, for example, at the food show this afternoon a big, handsome society woman in a garment at which many people looked curiously. It was a trained cloak of dark green camel's hair that swept the floor with regal disregard of consequences. It was cut with a deep, pointed yoke of paler green, mottled with crimson and russet and gold, and bordered with a narrow strip of Persian lamb. Below the yoke of the cloak became a close-fitting princess robe, over which there fell both in front and at the back a gathered Watteau length, to which perhaps little objection would be urged except that it had no conceivable reason for existence beyond the straining after oddity. Balloon sleeves of dark green velvet and little pointed cloth jockeys, with furred edges, upon the shoulders, contributed to that appearance of broadness in the upper parts which is another of the autumn's whims. On the hips were other pointed jockeys, pretending to be basques, and, take it altogether, the cloak was a fine example of the sort of amusements in which the modistes and tailors are now indulging. With it the imposing blonde wore a dark green velvet has, with bows and green and

In the neighborhood where chocolate abounded Miss Maud Lorillard was an interesting figure in a demi-season cloak less interesting than the one just dealt with, but carrying out, after all. the same principles. Her close-fitting eream and blue brocade robe with its huge sleeves and slight train had a deep lace flounce set on cape fashion about the shoulders, gathered to a point with a black velvet rosette and long streamers in the back, fastened in front in the same fashion and allowed to hang from the fastening in broad lace lapels to the floor, these lapels giving quite the Watteau effect as in the back did the streamers.

Miss Lorillard's hat was a microscopic blue turban with cream-colored plumes. A piquant girl, with a face all interrogation points and with a fuzz of short brown curis, was in evidence in a Watteau dress, which varied enough from the general model to be worth consideration. Her russet cloth frock had no visible means of fastening. What the observer could note was a square yoke of darker russet and cream ribbed stuff, with a close-fitting waist below,



TWO EVENING GOWNS.

betted with a broad band of the same material. The plain skirt was bordered with the ribbed material for two feet from the bottom and the costame's peenliarity came in two narrow Watteaus set on either side of the front and hanglife from the yoke to the floor. This doubling up of the Watteen business is not common, but is no more illogical than the single arrangement. Indeed, with its hig sleeves ending in long tight-ribbed cuffs, and its little reset hat, with cream-colored plume, the outfit was more successful than most other attempts, if no more justifiable.

At a reception recently following one of the automn weddings I pleased mysaif with charking off the direct and one variations in siaborate dress on the Watten: acteme. The most interestwith pink at the bottom. The silk was entertain a poor opinion. Here are drapery of plais chillion, embendered in causes miss Mark with Brendsof good and failing | European Lady Ah, how glad I am presented states features.

STYLES OF THE DAY away in loose draperies, parting in front and arranged in long cascades to frost and arranged in long cascules to the floor. A big black velvet bow held the shiffon over the bosom, and black velvet suspenders ran over the shoulders, following the lines of the armholes about and hanging from the yoke behind loosely on either side. The chiffon was gathered to the waist in the back, held with a rosette and allowed to fall in box plaits, sweeping

away like the front cascades. Another somewhat notable costume was a stone gray princess dress with a train and with a cape-like drapery about the shoulders delicately embroidered in silver with dashes of red. This drapery was fastened on either side of the front, leaving something of an opening, and was then drawn down, scarf fashion, to a point just below the bust, held there with a velvet bow and long ends and allowed to fall itself in broads folds to the ground. Arrangements like this and some of the others spoken of are not strictly classed as Watteaus, but they come under the same general heading of loose draperies which bear no necessary relation to the

The idea crops out in evening dress constantly, especially in empire designs. Take for example blue faille made up for a recent trousseau. The silk was gathered from the shoulders to a point on the bosom, leaving the neck bare. It was held by a knot of blue velvet, and from it fell, loose and full, a gathered drapery of lace descending in cascades upon the hips and carried up under the arms to fail again in the back as a Wattenu. The skirt was



A WATTEAU CLOAK

trimmed with a muslin puff, with a lace flounce above and a muslin ruche to head all. The sleeves were short velvet puffs met by gloves of pale blue.

For the rest there is a great rejoicing in color. Women walk the streets and face you in the shops and picture gal-leries in deep rich amethyst purple and dark pinkish reds and in an immense range of greens. There is more haste than the season demands in putting on velvet and fur-warm colored velvet and dark fur to stand out in luxurious contrast. I remember a woman who passed me on the street a few days ago in a wonderful Henry III. cape of brilliant blue velvet with a broad Greek fret embroidery of jet and silk and a feathers. The mite of a shoulder mantle, which distinguishes this sort of cape and the high plaited collar had cocks' feather trimmings to correspond. It's worth watching when a woman sweeps down the street in a marvel of this sort with one hand full of autumn roses and the other extended to pick up the trail of her dark-blue cloth-embroidered gown.

The capes of the season are very full and generously enveloping. One gets lost in the depths of a great circle of violet velvet with mink talls fringing it about the shoulders and three rows more of the caudal appendages of the unlucky little beasts to trim it at bot-

Velvet and fur belong quite as much to the house as to the street. It is a part of the still prevalent Russian craze that when your hostess pours tea of an afternoon it is more likely than not to be in some dull red cloth robe.

The coaching season brings out the prettiest outdoor frocks of October. Miss Fannie Tailer on the Rapid the other day were a particularly smart dark green serge dress, rough of texture and with a huge plaid faintly checked off in hair lines of pale blue. It was an absolutely plain tailor gown of princess cut, with a small pointed Figaro jacket of green velvet turned back in wide lapels upon the bosom and lined with pale blue silk shining out dimly. With this outfit went a flat green felt hat with velvet ribbons

and dark green curling plumes. Another dress that would serve exsellently well as a model is a brown and cream-colored check made bright by threads of crimson. It has a long Russian blouse for a top, belted with rimson velvet ribbon and is otherwise plain, except for its full sleeves gathered to the wrist and then spreading again in broad cuffs that are gathered

like ruffles. There isn't much new in millinery but a continual wonder is the uprightness of the feather trimmings. Plumes are grouped like flowers and then planted on the extreme top of the rown. They have no choice but to stand erect and wave, and they do it bravely, almost as if they found it natsral and easy. One of the favorite milinery howers is the chrysanthemum. and it is sometimes so big or the bonnet so little that it provides the only and, by custom, all sufficient head covering.

ELLEN ORBORN. SOCIAL CALLS IN SIAM.

Small Talk Indulged in hy Encopean La-dies and the Inmates of the Harom. A French newspaper printed in Slam ears that few more extraordinary inchladies to the bonnes of native functionrepeats should visit the so-called wires | so the decline. of native officials, although, he says, he can suderstand why the wires of consale should be carious to enter the harems and see life in such places, it is not difficult to satisfy the sleeter, but he

expost understand who fire year wonling thing I noticed was a rose pink on about submit to reciprocal visits. Junn. He is a dombi organize now, no gown of a tinti surfaced sits, with a soul continue social intersource with bound devoting time and thought to double raching of black caret, fixed. Stamese women, of which he appears to live above, but laterated only in gross gathered to a smedling such about the same specimens which he says are tale from accommunity fat, and he have to throat, and across the Scause, giring executes of the talk between a Form the wild berry trees, executed; food the offset of a year, was attached a peak seman and the wife of one of the bur on their fact and extends on sound

to see you. I have been longing to come for some time, but I have so many visits to make. How is your dear husband, Nai Bun?

Slamese Lady (scratching her bare legs as a preamble)-Very well, I think. European Lady (astonished)-How is

Siumese Lady (coolly)-He left some

days ago to see his first wife. European Lady (more and more sur-prised)-His first wife? Well, and you? Stamese Lady-Oh, I am only his sixth wife

European Lady-But you have had three children by Nai Bun?

Siamese Lady (sadly)-Four, if you please; but since the eldest has turned out badly we don't speak of her now. Since her master has gone home she has run off with his boy.

European Lady-And your second daughter?

Siamese Lady-We shall give her to a man for a hundred dollars, dress and ornaments included. The bargain has almost been made.

The conversation continues in that vein for some time, and the editor is of the opinion that it is not very edifying.

DUEL ON A TIGHT ROPE. Desperate Encounter with Surprising

Results in Dublin Many Years Ago. In Dublin, at the beginning of this century, there were two rivals in the rope dancing-a Frenchman named Perote and an Italian, Signor Sarfuico-who, after trying in every way to outvie each other, agreed to perform together in a "dance of friend-The two men on the rope were in full dress of the period, with lace raffles, bagwigs and swords. Signor Sarfuico, in beginning, seemed to have some difficulty with his feet, which, Perote perceiving, caused him to make some remark which aroused the Italian's anger, who raised his hand as if to strike. The same instant Perote's rapier was drawn and before the audience could comprehend that they had quarreled Sarfuico's sword was out also and the two were thrusting at each other on the tight rope. Both were good swordsmen, but, Tid-Bits says, Perote was the better of the two. He warded off the Italian's thrusts with his rapier till Sarfuico, making one desperate lunge, received a back stroke which threw him off his balance, and at the same time he attempted to grapple with his enemy. Down he went and down went Perote, and there was the Italian banging on to the rope by his feet and the Frenchman holding on to it by both hands, when the latter, with a face of triumph, cried: "Look, ladies and gentlemen, at the straps attached to his shoe heels and passed over the rope! There is how he has made himself safe and dared to pretend he surpassed me, whose life was spent on the rope, and whose great-great-grandfather performed before Henry IV." By this time

A DEADLY POISON.

the spectators had rushed with ladders

and feather beds and got both men

safely down. Sarfuico's exposure, how-

ever, prevented his further success and

he quickly disappeared from the city.

Threads from the Bamboo Cause a Terrible Death.

The bamboo, the reeds of which are useful in so many ways, is used by the Japanese as a means with which they cocks wreak bitter vengeance on offenders and enemies, for it contains a poison of a terribly destructive nature, which causes a slow and painful death, and is all the more pernicious, as it can be ad-ministered in a manner that defles de-

> The powerful poison is found close to the knots of the bamboo reed in the form of sharp, black, fibrous threads which can be easily removed with a knife, a piece of glass, or any other cutting instrument. Mixed with water or food they are absorbed without being noticed, and they settle at once in the throat or other air passages, which they commence to obstruct, producing a wretched cough and inflammation which ends in tuberculosis and other mortal diseases of the lung and throat, with ultimate death. Proofs of this were obtained in experimenting with a dog. The symptoms were as follows: Loss of appetite, increasing thirst, cough and expectoration, loss of flesh, protruding eyes, manifest anxiety and oppression, with death following in a

SOME VALUABLE STATISTICS. Although They Have to Do With Crime, They Are of Interest to All.

Every reader knows what absurd conclusions as to the social and moral condition of a country are often drawn from imperfect statistics, but Dr. William Duffield Robinson, physician for ten years to the Eastern penitentiary of Pennsylvania, has figured some facts down to a fine point. He declares that | J. S. Morrice, 65 S. Division. the sentences to the penitentiary may be taken as fairly representative of the total amount of crime prevailing in the entire district from which it receives prisoners, and that the extent of territory and period of time covered by the calculation make the deductions a fair index of the criminal phenomena of the whole country.

He argues that reformation is practicable from the fact that one third of the criminals are between twenty and twenty-five years of age. He finds that men of sixty are about eight times as trustworthy as men of twenty-five. or, to put it in another way, of eight men who are criminals at twenty-five seven will be law abilling citizens at sixty. A terror of the law has brought about the reformation in most cases, he

It is true that an overwhelming mafority of criminals are young, but does it follow that most of them reform as they grow older? Is it not likely that they die twice as fast as other men? His division of crimes as to the age when they are most common is very interesting. He concludes that personal dents owner than the stat of European sessuits, including assault and battery to all forms, maybein, poisoning and arios. The editor regards it as a sensual crimes are steadily on the instrange anomaly that the wives of Eu- crease, and forgery and counterfeiting

All subsuban regions now abound in evities, but the colin in automa is only

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